

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-16

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FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8185

USIA WASHDC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 6240

FROM USIS/PAO AND RSO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT: SECURITY IMPROVEMENT FOR USIS JFK CENTER

REF: BEIRUT 5916

1. FOLLOW-UP INSPECTION OF THE JFK CENTER AFTER BOMBING
INCIDENT SHOWS THAT THE FOLLOWING SECURITY IMPROVEMENTS
NECESSARY TO UPGRADE SECURITY POSTURE
OF BUILDING: TO ACCEPTABLE LEVEL.

A. INSTALL GUARD DESK IN THE LOBBY OF THE BUILDING TO
CONTROL ACCESS INTO THE LIBRARY AND TO UPSTAIRS OFFICE
AREAS. DESK IS TO BE INSTALLED ON A RAISED PLATFORM AND
WILL BE REINFORCED TO PROVIDE PROTECTION FOR THE GUARD.
THREE CCTV MONITORS FOR THE BELOW RECOMMENDED CCTV CAMERAS
WILL BE INSTALLED IN THE DESK. PANIC ALARM ACTIVATOR WILL
ALSO BE INSTALLED SO THAT THE GUARD CAN ALERT THE OCCUPANTS
OF THE BUILDING IN CASE OF EMERGENCY. ESTIMATED COST FOR THE
DESK IS LL 700 (\$295).

B. INSTALL DOUBLE SOLID WOOD DOORS OUTSIDE THE EXISTING OPEN
DECORATIVE IRON GRILL DOORS PROTECTING THE MAIN ENTRANCE.
EACH OF THE WOODEN DOORS WILL HAVE SMALL VERTICAL WINDOWS TO
ALLOW THE GUARD TO OBSERVE THE AREA OUTSIDE THE DOOR. THESE
DOORS WILL ALSO ACT AS A WEATHER BARRIER DURING WINTER MONTHS.
THE DOORS WILL BE EQUIPPED WITH AN ELECTRICALLY OPERATED LATCH
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ACTIVATED FROM THE GUARD DESK. ESTIMATED COST IS LL 700 (\$295).

C. INSTALL TWO CCTV CAMERAS IN THE LIBRARY. CAMERAS ARE TO BE INSTALLED AT EACH END OF THE LIBRARY AND WILL PROVIDE VIDEO COVERAGE FOR APPROXIMATELY NINETY PERCENT OF LIBRARY AREA.

D. INSTALL ONE CCTV CAMERA IN FIRST FLOOR READING ROOM. THIS CAMERA WILL COVER APPROXIMATELY NINETY PERCENT OF READING ROOM.

E. INSTALL LOCKING DEVICE ON THE INTAKE VALVE OF THE FLUID OIL TANK LOCATED ADJACENT TO NOTHER END OF THE BUILDING AND STREET. INSTALL METAL SCREEN OVER FUEL TANK'S OVERFLOW VALVE AND FUME VALVE. CONSTRUCT CONCRETE BARRIER ON THREE SIDES OF FUEL OIL TANK AND INSTALL METAL SCREEN OVER THE TOP TO PREVENT ACCESS FROM THE STREET. ESTIMATED COST LL 300 (\$230).

F. RELOCATE EXISTING LIBRARY SHELVES TO REMOVE PRESENT ALCOVES AND TO ALLOW BETTER OBSERVATION BY LIBRARY PERSONNEL AND RECOMMENDED CCTV CAMERAS. ESTIMATED COST LL 5,000 (\$2,300).

G. INSTALL MYLAR ON ALL WINDOWS OF THE BUILDING. WILL PROVIDE WINDOW DIMENSIONS SEPTEL. REQUEST USIA ARRANGE FOR FUNDING UPON RECEIPT OF WINDOW DIMENSIONS.

2. NUMBER OF PROCEDURAL SECURITY MODIFICATIONS ALSO INSTITUTED AT JFK CENTER E.G., LOGGING IN AND OUT OF ALL VISITORS, THOROUGH INSPECTION ALL CARRIED IN ITEMS, ETC.

3. REQUEST PRIORITY FUNDING FOR ABOVE RECOMMENDATIONS. WE ARE CONCERNED THAT THERE MAY BE ADDITIONAL BOMBINGS OR OTHER ACTS OF TERRORISM AT U.S. INSTALLATIONS IN LEBANON. GODLEY

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